

# Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP)

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**Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP)** is a network management [Protocol](#) used to dynamically assign an [Internet Protocol \(IP\)](#) address to any device, or node, on a network so it can communicate using IP. DHCP automates and centrally manages these configurations rather than requiring network administrators to manually assign an [Internet Protocol Address \(IP Address\)](#) to all [network devices](#). DHCP can be implemented on small local networks [Local Area Network \(LAN\)](#), as well as [Wide Area Network \(WAN\)](#) large enterprise networks.

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